

## Message Text

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43

ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 IO-14 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01

PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20 USIA-15 SAM-01 DPW-01 AID-20

DRC-01 /129 W

----- 081254

P R 181050Z FEB 74

FM AMEMBASSY SAIGON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 1799

INFO USDEL JEC PARIS

USMISSION GENEVA

CINCPAC HONOLULU

AMCONSUL DANANG

AMCONSUL BIEN HOA

AMCONSUL CAN THO

AMCONSUL NHA TRANG

USDEL FPJMT SAIGON

DAO SAIGON

USSAG NKP

CDR JCRC NKP

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: MILI PINS PINT VSVN

SUBJECT: STATUS GVN/PRG PERSONNEL RELEASES AT END OF  
FIRST WEEK

1. PERSONNEL RELEASES HAVE GONE SMOOTHLY TO DATE, BUT GVN  
RELEASES HAVE FALLEN BEHIND SCHEDULE DUE TO WEATHER AND TRANSPORT  
PROBLEMS.

SYNOPSIS:

| DAY | TO PRG | HOI CHANH | TOTAL |
|-----|--------|-----------|-------|
|-----|--------|-----------|-------|

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|             |     |    |     |
|-------------|-----|----|-----|
| FRIDAY, 2/8 | 199 | 01 | 200 |
|-------------|-----|----|-----|

|                 |       |      |       |
|-----------------|-------|------|-------|
| MONDAY, 2/11    | 142   | 02   | 144   |
| TUESDAY, 2/12   | 167   | 09   | 176   |
| WEDNESDAY, 2/13 | 189   | 11   | 200   |
| THURSDAY, 2/14  | 135   | 09   | 144   |
| FRIDAY, 2/15    | NONE  |      |       |
| SATURDAY, 2/16  | 114   | 06   | 120   |
| MONDAY, 2/18    | --    | --   | 144   |
| TOTAL           | (946) | (38) | 1,128 |

2. GVN CAPABILITY TO TRANSPORT 200 DETAINEES DAILY TO LOC NINH IS CONTINGENT UPON THE AVAILABILITY OF EIGHT HU-1B HELICOPTERS DRAWN FROM TPJMC ASSETS IN REGIONS 4, 5, AND 6 AND SAIGON. (A SECOND VNAF INSPECTION AT LOC NINH ON FEBRUARY 11 DETERMINE THE CONDITION OF THE AIRFIELD UNSAFE FOR CARIBOU AIRCRAFT) PR INSISTENCE BOTH MONDAY AND THURSDAY THAT TWO OF THESE HELICOPTERS BE PROVIDED FOR THE SAIGON-LOC NINH LIAISON FLIGHT REDUCED DELIVERY CAPABILITY ON THOSE DAYS TO 144. MECHANICAL DIFFICULTIES GROUNDED ONE HELICOPTER ON TUESDAY (8 PERSONS TIMES 3 FLIGHTS EQUALS 24), THUS ACCOUNTING FOR THAT DAY'S SHORTFALL.

3. THE HIGHLY UNUSUAL (AT THIS TIME OF YEAR) OCCURRENCE OF RAINFALL AND CLOUDY WEATHER PREVENTED RELEASES ON FRIDAY. ACCORDING TO COLONEL NGHIA OF THE GVN/TPJMC, THE ADVANCE PARTIES OF GVN, ICCS, AND THE PRG LIAISON DID IN FACT FLY TO LOC NINH, WHERE IT WAS DETERMINED BY THE HUNGARIAN CHAIRMAN THAT THE CEILING OF LESS THAN 2,000 METERS AND VISIBILITY OF LESS THAN 3 KMS DICTATED A RETURN TO SAIGON. COLONEL NGHIA MET THE ADVANCE PARTIES AT TAN SON NHUT UPON THEIR RETURN AT 10:30 A.M. AND REQUESTED THAT THEY STAND BY UNTIL NOON IN CASE THE WEATHER SHOULD IMPROVE. WHEN IT DID NOT, EVERYONE CALLED IT A DAY.

4. TO DATE, THE PRG HAS MATCHED THE GVN IN CARRYING OUT ITS LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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SIDE OF THE RELEASES. IN ADDITION TO THE 100 POW'S RELEASED AT DUC NGHIEP ON TUESDAY, THE PRG HAS FULFILLED ITS COMMITMENTS AT THE THREE SITED IN MR-1. ON FEBRUARY 14, FIVE OF A SCHEDULED SIX CIVILIANS WERE RELEASED IN QUANG NAM. THE GVN HAS CONFIRMED THAT THE SIXTH PERSON HAD ESCAPED AS CLAIMED BY THE PRG, AND HAD PREVIOUSLY RETURNED TO THE GVN. ON FEBRUARY 15, THE PRG RELEASED EIGHTEEN OF NINETEEN (ONE HAD DIED) SCHEDULED FOR QUANG TIN AND 74 OF 79 (PRG STATES 5 HAD DIED) SCHEDULED FOR

QUANG NGAI. TOTAL RECEIVED TO DATE BY GVN IS THUS 100/100 POWS  
AND 97/104 CIVILIANS.

5. SUB-COMMITTEE MEETINGS ON FEBRUARY 13 AND 14, AN UNUSUAL  
SATURDAY CHIEFS OF DELEGATION MEETING (POSTPONED FROM FRIDAY AT  
THE PRG'S REQUEST), AND ANOTHER SUB-COMMITTEE MEETING ON  
FEBRUARY 18 HAVE FAILED TO ACHIEVE AGREEMENT ON THE DETAILS FOR  
PRG RELEASES IN THE SECOND PHASE. THIS HAS NOT, HOWEVER,  
PREVENTED AGREEMENT ON A NUMBER OF OTHER POINTS, INCLUDING A  
REVISED SCHEDULE FOR GVN RELEASES AT LOC NINH WHICH RECOGNIZES  
THE LIMITATIONS ON TPJMC AIR ASSETS. FROM HERE ON OUT, THE  
GVN WILL DELIVER TO LOC NINH AT THE RATE OF 144 DTAINEES ON  
MONDAYS AND THURSDAYS, 200 ON TUESDAYS, WEDNESDAYS, AND FRIDAYS  
AND 100 ON SATURDAYS. NO DEFINITE DATES HAVE BEEN SET FOR PRG  
RELEASES OF CIVILIANS AT ANY OF THE REMAINING SEVEN SITES.  
HOWEVER, THE GVN HAS ALREADY CONDUCTED RECONNAISSANCES OF THE SITES  
IN KHANH HOA (10 CIVILIANS) AND VO DINH (08), AND RELEASES AT  
THESE SITES SHOULD TAKE PLACE SOMETIME THIS WEEK. THE SITE IN  
PHU YEN (05) IS TO BE CHECKED OUT ON THE 20TH AND THAT IN CA  
MAU (09) ON THE 23RD. THIS LEAVES SITES IN PHUOC TUY, HAU NGHIA,  
AND KIEN GIANG STILL AT ISSUE.

6. ACCORDING TO THE INITIAL AGREEMENT WHICH CALLED FOR THE PRG  
TO RELEASE ROUGHLY 100 PERSONNEL UPON THE COMPLETION OF EACH  
GVN INCREMENTAL RELEASE OF 500, THE PRG SHOULD BE AGREEABLE TO  
RELEASES TOTALLING 100 CIRCA FEBRUARY 21/22 AND SOMETHING IN  
EXCESS OF 200 TO COMPLETE ITS SECOND PHASE. TO DATE, HOWEVER,  
IT HAS AGREED TO RELEASING ONLY 18 FOR THE GVN'S NEXT 500 AND  
SOMETHING UNDER 150 IN ITS ENTIRE SECOND PHASE. GENERAL HIEP  
IS AT A LOSS TO EXPLAIN THE PRG'S HARDHEADEDNESS ON THIS POINT,  
AND HOPES TO GET THE PRG TO AGREE TO ITS FAIR SHARE AT THE  
FEBRUARY 19 CHIEFS OF DELEGATION MEETING. IN THE MEANTIME,  
THE GVN HAS PROVIDED THE ICCS WITH THE SCHEDULE FOR ITS OWN  
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SECOND PHASE RELEASES AT LOC NINH AND INTENDS TO PROCEED WITH  
THEM AT THE AGREED RATE.  
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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** AIR TRANSPORTATION, AGREEMENTS, POW RETURN, MEETINGS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 18 FEB 1974  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** morefirh  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1974SAIGON02137  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** n/a  
**From:** SAIGON  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1974/newtext/t19740226/aaaaaxyw.tel  
**Line Count:** 157  
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**Office:** ACTION EA  
**Original Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
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**Page Count:** 3  
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**Previous Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** n/a  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** morefirh  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
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**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
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30 JUN 2005

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**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** STATUS GVN/PRG PERSONNEL RELEASES AT END OF FIRST WEEK  
**TAGS:** MILI, PINS, PINT, VS, VN, PRG, TPJMC  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005